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THE SANDMAN
PRESENTS

#3 of 3

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Lucifer

THE
MORNINGSTAR
OPTION



by Hampton

MIKE
CAREY

SCOTT
HAMPTON

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THE SANDMAN
PRESENTS

Lucifer™

THE MORNINGSTAR OPTION

PART THREE

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THE STORY THUS FAR...

Lucifer Morningstar, fallen angel and former Lord of Hell, has become Heaven's cleanup man.

When an ancient magical force awakens and starts granting ordinary mortals their hearts' desires, the resultant chaos threatens to consume the world. Unable to act on its own behalf, Heaven calls Lucifer out of retirement to track the magic to its source. He accepts the mission in return for one letter of passage.

A dangerous search for information takes him from his plane bar in L.A. back to the Underworld, where a silent angel confirms Lucifer's suspicions: the wish-granting magic is the handiwork of the Voiceless Gods — entities worshipped by the earliest mortals in First World, the dark birthplace of human creation.

Forging an unlikely alliance with Rachel Regal, a young mortal of mixed Navajo parentage, Lucifer begins a shamanistic journey to First World. Guilt-ridden over a careless wish that caused her brother's death, Rachel has her own reasons for joining Lucifer. She hopes to wash her hands of family blood and bring her brother back from the dead. . .

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A MIDNIGHT DRIVER, FURNISHING BOTH THE LUNCH AND PHOTOGRAPHY DOWN TO THE RESERVATIONS.

CORR. PHOTOGRAPHY, RACHEL THOUGHT SOME CHANGES





OWAY I'M
SORRY BAD
JOKE.

SO TELL
ME ABOUT
TSCOTT!



IT'S NOT ABOUT
TSCOTT, GIRL. IT'S
ABOUT SOAM.

WHY?

HUMANITY.



ALL THE KINGS OF MEN TELL
THE SCUM OF THEIR PUNISHINGS,
BUT THEY ALL CHASE IN ON THE
DETAILS.

DO THE
DETAILS
MATTER?

THE DETAILS
ARE ALL THAT
MATTERS.



THE BLUE TELL THAT
SCUM IN TERMS OF TIME - ONE
THING AFTER ANOTHER. FIRST
CAME THE DARKNESS, THEN
CAME THE LIGHT.

YOUR
PUPILS
REACTED
TO DARK
LIGHTS.



THEN SEE THE DARKNESS
AS A TUNNEL THAT THEY COULD
CHARGE TO REACH THE LIGHT.
A WIND-CUT TUNNEL. THE LIGHT
WAS IN ANOTHER PLACE, FAR
AHEAD. THE MISSING MISSING
COULD, DOES IT?

WELL, JUST A
LOT IS IT A BIRTH
METAPHOR?

NO, IT'S THE
DARK FOR WHICH
BIRTH IS A
METAPHOR.

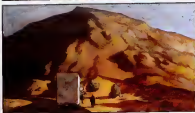


IN ONE CASE,
THE DARK TELL
THE SCUM AS A
SOUND, A PIANO
AND GUITAR
SCUM. THE
Piano SCUM
SCUM FROM
WAS FIRST
SCUM.

ANYONE THE
DARKNESS WAS
WAS IN IT
AS.

"UNDERSTAND THE UNUSUAL LEAD THESE CHILD LIVES COULD FOLLOW, CHANCE WOULD HAVE DISMISSED IT AS FLACK FOR A MILLION DOLLARS AND THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF BLACK COPS, A HUNDRED FEET TALL, WITH POWER INVISIBLE MINDS, THEY'VE TAKEN THE FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT... THAT HAVE NOT TAKEN IN GEOLOGICAL ASSES."

"NOW HAVE FORGOTTEN THE WORDLESS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN YOU. THEY WANT YOU TO COME HOME, WITH THE MIND OF YOUR HEART AND YOUR WISDOM BUT WHILE THE DARKNESS IS A HOME FOR DARK, FOR NOW IT WAS ONLY A WOMAN."







THEY'RE
GOODS?

THEY'RE...THE WORST
THING I'VE EVER TASTED?
IN MY WHOLE LIFE

BUT STILL
THEY'RE GOOD
EAT THEM
ALL



GRANDDAUGHTER,
HE IS JUST HELPING YOU
BE SURE OF THAT. ATSE-
HAGWEH HAS HIS OWN
REASONS FOR EVERY-
THING HE DOES

BUT HE
SAID IF I CAME
WITH HIM I'D
GET MY BROTHER
BACK



THAT IS NOT
WHAT HE SAID. THE
CRYING OF YOUR OWN
SPIRIT MADE YOU LEAF
TO HIS HOUSE

AND NOW HE
HAS ALLOWED IN YOUR
FOOTPRINTS TO HIS
MOST PLACE



I WALKED IN HIS
FOOTPRINTS, DIDN'T HE
GET ME HERE, AND HE'S
GIVING ME A CHANCE
TO DO WHAT I NEED
TO DO

NO—WHAT HE NEEDS
TO DO. BUT NO MATTER. YOU'VE
REMEMBER THE WAY HERE
ANOTHER TIME, AND YOU'LL
BE WELCOME —IF YOU COME
ALONE



LOOK, I'M STAYING
WITH HIM. HE PULLED ME
OUT OF A LOT OF SHIT
ALREADY

OHNO, MY STOMACH
THOSE WERE JUST DOWN
BANDAGES, RIGHT?

YES. BUT THIS BRUSH
OF AIR BRINGS STRENGTH
TO THE HEART AND MIND.
YOU WILL NEED THAT



ONE BAG OF GILDED
IT WOULD BE EASIER
TO FIND THE BAG LOCUS
CRISP. GO FORTH ON
CAN. BEATS SUGAR
HEAT LIGHT

YOU HAVE NO TIME TO WAIT AND
FILL YOUR STOMACH
ATSEHAGWEH. I
THOUGHT YOU WERE
IN A HURRY

HIS
GRANDDAUGHTER
I HAVE A LOT FOR
YOU



WHAT IS IT?

WHAT'S A
ZISH?

A ZISH

A REDDISH
POACH. IT WILL
TEAR YOU WHERE
YOU HAVE TO GO.
AND IT WILL BRING
YOU BACK







RACHEL...

YOU STOLE MY
BARREL DREAM! WE'RE
NOW ANDER! YOU
DID!



HAWWW!

RACHEL,
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE CALLED
AT MY BARREL

RACHEL, THIS IS
YOUR MOTHER. WHY
DO YOU HEAR ME
TO AN, DARKNESS?

DON'T
LEAVE ME,
RACHEL!

WHY DID
YOU KILL ME,
RACHEL?



WHAT
THE HELL IS
THIS?

POWER
WORLD. THE
SAND BARREL LEFT
BY THE FLOOD
WAS NO GOOD
GROWN

AS FOR THE
FISH... CHAIRS
SPEAKING TO YOU
NOT ME, NO I CAN
COMMAND



DO THEY'RE THE VOICES
OF MY SUBCONSCIOUS WANT
OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?

POSSIBLY. I'M
NOT BIG ON PSYCHO-
ANALYSIS

IN WHICH CASE
THEY CAN GO AWAY
THEMSELVES ENOUGH
IS ENOUGH!



IF THIS IS A
SPIRIT HOUSE'S EVERY-
THING GONNA TURN OUT
TO BE SOME HORROR
COMEDY

LIKE THIS
IS A BARREN LAND
WHERE NEEDS DON'T
GROW...

...AND I
JUST WANTED
TO HAVE A
KID RIGHT
HERE IN THE
ROCK



OHAY THERE
WE GO

LET'S MAKE
THE DESERT BLOOM,
WHY DON'T WE?



well!



CHRIST
ON A BIRD!

WELL, SOME
SOMEONE FOUND
OUT WHERE THE
FLOOD BARRIERS
WERE



AND I THINK
SOMEONE SUCCEEDED
IN RECOVERING THEIR
BLOOD LION



GREAT

POSSIBLE
PREDICT

WHAT
DO WE DO
NEXT?

WE WAIT.
ONE MORE DAY
LONG.

WELL, I CAN'T
SWIM, I'M GONNA
DROWN!

NO, IF ONE
QUARTER IS ONLY
SURRENDER

OH FOR CHRIST'S
SAKE! DON'T JUST STAND
THERE TAKING CHEAP SHOTS,
DO SOMETHING!





THE SMALL REASONS --
THE GUY OF ONE PEOPLE MORE
ONE ELEMENT FROM FROM
THEIR PROPER ORDER, BE
CAUTION FROM THE WORLD
IS STILL FULL OF THE
REASONS OF CAREFUL



MAYBE ITS
TIME FOR SOME
MORE INSPIRING
MAN STUFF

I'VE JUST GOT THE FEATHER
AND THE STONE LEFT NOW WHICH
ONE OF YOU DECISION COMES NEXT?
I'M THINKING, MAYBE THE
FEATHER...



BRING IT HERE
RACHEL. I'LL SHOW
YOU WHAT TO DO

HUNT



IT'S EASY. GIVE ME THE JURY AND
I'LL SHOW YOU. I'LL TEACH YOU HOW
TO BE A GOOD HUNTER AND CHANGE
YOUR SHAPE.

PULL ON
MY HOOD WHAT
AM I DOING
HERE?



THIS IS CRAZY YOU'RE TALKING
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE THERE WAS
NEVER ANYTHING WRONG WITH YOU

THERE'S STRONG
MAGIC HERE. GIVE
ME THE JURY

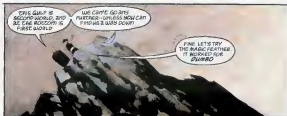
YOU KNOW I
NEVER WANTED TO
HURT YOU, PAUL. IT
WAS AN ACCIDENT.
IT WAS...



NOW, WHERE, LET ME
SHOW YOU WHAT HUNT
IS. LET ME TEACH YOU
ALL THE WAYS OF IT.

WAAAAH!









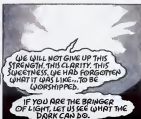
SSSHRAKKK!





OH, WE HAVE
BARRIED, FINALLY, THE
VOICES. A PLACE OF
POWER. A CAR IN THE
GARAGE. NOW
EVERYTHING'S
BETTER. WE
WILL PROCEED
AS PLANNED.

THE MAGIC
WOLFE HAD TO DO
FIND THE CAR IN THE
GARAGE. THE CAR
WAS IN THE GARAGE
IN THE CAR. THE CAR
WAS IN THE GARAGE
IN THE CAR. THE CAR
WAS IN THE GARAGE
IN THE CAR.



WE WILL NOT GIVE UP THIS
STRENGTH. THIS CLARITY. THIS
SWEETNESS. WE HAD FORGOTTEN
WHAT IT WAS LIKE... TO BE
WORSHIPPED.

IF YOU ARE THE BRINGER
OF LIGHT, LET US SEE WHAT THE
DARK CAN DO.



LOOKER, WHAT'S
THAT NOISE?

AND JUST
THE JONES. WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

I TOLD YOU
EVERYONE WERE
CRACK. LIVED HERE.



CRACK
COMING

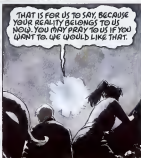


THE NOISE BECOMES
FROM CRACK AND CRACKING
OF LIVING THINGS. CRACK
COMING TO SEE US.

CRACK

CRACK
CRACK

CRACK
CAN'T BE
REAL.



THAT IS FOR US TO SAY, BECAUSE
YOUR REALITY BELONGS TO US
NOW. YOU MAY PRAY TO US IF YOU
WANT TO. WE WOULD LIKE THAT.





CHRIS: THAT, I THINK
CAME TO GO
HOME.

I... I DON'T
GET IT. WHERE DID
THEY GO? WHAT
HAPPENED?

JOHN
REPLIED.



CHRIS BELIEVED JOHN'S EXPLANATION
TO SAVING HIS DESIRE. IT WAS A COMPLICATED
TWO-STEP PLAN, BUT JOHNSON DID
WELL ENOUGH.

WHEN JOHN WISHED
IT GONE, IT HAD NO
CHOICE BUT TO DISAPPEAR
ITSELF. THE DARKNESS
WAS ALL THAT REMAINED.



WAIT. WAIT A MINUTE.
THAT WAS THE THING THAT
WAS GOING TO HAPPEN,
RIGHT?

AND NOW IT'S GONE.
SO NOW DO I GET PAID
BACK?

JOHN
SAID: IT'S
GOING TO BE
HERE.



BUT
YOU... YOU
SAID...

I SAID IT
CAME FROM MY
APPROPRIATE...

THE
STEP-BY-STEP
INSTRUCTIONS.



YOU THOUGHT
YOU WERE
TO ME?

PERHAPS.
BUT IF YOU REALLY
WANTED HIM BACK,
IT WOULD HAVE
HAPPENED.

I SUSPECT THAT
WAS HOW JOHNSON
WANTED TO BE
EXCUSED TO FORGIVE
HIMSELF.



I'M STILL GOT THE FISH
LACER. I'M NOT TAKING YOU
BACK WITH ME. I'M GOING TO
LEAVE YOU HERE TO SEE
YOU BACK.

YES, I
THOUGHT WE
WERE GET
TO THE...

I SAID NOW
NEED TO BE
THE. NOW THAT THE
MATTERS CLEARER,
I THINK I'LL
JUST GO.



IN THE END, YOU SHOULD
BE SUCCESSFUL. THAT'S HOW
THE LIGHTING HERE IN ONE PLACE.
I SAID I WOULD LIVE AND
WILL BE BACK. AND
I COME AS WELL
GO.

CONSIDERATION.



I'LL FIND YOU SOMEDAY.
I WILL, I MEAN IT. WHEN I'M
STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE
YOU ON.

CHRIS'S FISH
WOULD REMAIN TO
KEEP HIMSELF UP
ABOUT THE FISH.
PLEASE UNTIL
NOW.

GOODBYE,
FACIAL.

